

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 01547 211047Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6608

S E C R E T KINSHASA 1547

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CF, AO, CG

SUBJECT: MPLA DELEGATION MEETS WITH MOBUTU'S EMISSARIES IN
BRAZZAVILLE

1. BISENGIMANA CALLED ME THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 20 TO SAY THAT HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO KEEP HIS APPOINTMENT ON FEBRUARY 21 WITH UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON, AS HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO GO TO BRAZZAVILLE. NETO HAD SENT A FIVE MAN DELEGATION, LED BY MPLA'S LUCIO LARA, TO BRAZZAVILLE AND HAD ASKED THAT THE PREVIOUSLY AGREED CONTACT TAKE PLACE IN THE CONGOLESE CAPITAL RATHER THAN IN KINSHASA.

2. THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT THE ORIGINAL PLAN WAS FOR A SINGLE MPLA EMISSARY TO SLIP INTO KINSHASA THIS WEEKEND AND TALK TO ONE OF MOBUTU'S REPRESENTATIVES. AS BISENGIMANA EXPLAINED TO ME, THERE WOULD BE NO WAY A FIVE MAN DELEGATION LED BY LARA WOULD BE ABLE TO SLIP INTO KINSHASA.

3. LAST NIGHT'S NEWS ANNOUNCED THAT THE CONGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD COME TO KINSHASA BY HELICOPTER FOR AN URGENT MEETING WITH MOBUTU. SUBJECT UNSPECIFIED. I SURMISE THAT HE BROUGHT NEWS OF THE MPLA REQUEST TO MEET IN BRAZZAVILLE AND THAT MOBUTU FELT THAT HE HAD TO SEND HIS SENIOR ADVISOR TO DEAL WITH LARA. NGUZA WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE RETURNED TO KINSHASA LAST NIGHT (FEBRUARY 20), AND IF HE DID, I WOULD GUESS THAT HE WILL MAKE THE TRIP ACROSS THE

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RIVER TOO.

WALKER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, LIBERATION FRONTS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KINSHA01547
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840104-2253
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760227/aaaaaxol.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS; EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <05 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MPLA DELEGATION MEETS WITH MOBUTU'S EMISSARIES IN BRAZZAVILLE
TAGS: PFOR, PEPR, CF, AO, CG, MPLA, (LARA, LUCIO), (NGUZA KARL-I-BOND)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006